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Message Text

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64
ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAL-01 FBO-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 L-03 PM-07

NSC-10 SS-20 DRC-01 /098 W
---------- 091055
R 262144Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8902
INFO GOV PANCANAL
USCINCSO

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EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: PN, PFOR, ABLD
SUBJ: ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION TO REVISE EMBASSY'S LEASE

REF: PANAMA -192

SUMMARY: PRESS HAS REPORTED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF CORREIGIMIENTO REPRESENTATIVES CALLING FOR REVISION OF 999 YEAR LEASE ON CHANCERY PROPERTY TO ELIMINATE ONEROUS PROVISIONS TO WHICH PANAMA WAS SUBJECTED. TONE OF RESOLUTION IS HOSTILE, REFERRING TO "INFAMOUS ARROGANCE OF THE YANKEE IMPERIALISTS..." THIS APPEARS TO BE ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF PETTY HARRASSMENT AND MAY BE PART OF PANAMA'S PREPARATIONS FOR CANAL TREATY NEGOTIATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. UNDER THE HEADLINE "REVISION OF OTHER DENEGRATING CONVENTION WHICH RENTS LAND IN PERPETUITY" MATUTINO PUBLISHED TEXT OF RESOLUTION REPORTEDLY APPROVED BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF CORREGIMIENTO REPRESENTATIVES ON OCTOBER 25 CONCERNING LEASE FOR PROPERTY ON WHICH AMERICAN EMBASSY'S CHANCERY IS LOCATED. FREE TRANSLATION OF RESOLUTION FOLLOWS.QUOTE: CONSIDERAING: (1) THE LAW NO. 40 OF 25 NOVEMBER 1938 EXISTS, "BY WHICH THE LEASE CONTRACT CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE
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REPUBLIC OF PANAMA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IS APPROVED

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IN RELATION TO BLOCK OF LAND WHICH THE EMBASSY OF THE U.S. PRESENTLY OCCUPIES; (2) THAT ONE OF ITS ARTICLES ESTABLISHES THAT THE RENTAL IS FOR 999 YEARS, AT THE RATE OF B/25,000.00 FOR ALL OF THIS PERIOD; (3) THAT, MOREOVER, PANAMA IS OBLIGED TO A SERIES OF VERY SPECIAL CONDITIONS; THE MAINTENANCE OF ITS STREETS AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEM FOR THE CONVENEINCE OF SAID EMBASY, IN SPITE OF THEPOVERTY OF OUR COUNTRY; AND (4) THAT THE ONE-SIDED CONTRACT BARES THE INFAMOUS ARROGANCE OF THE YANKEE IMPERIALISTS AND THE CRIMINAL COMPLICITY OF THE PANAMANIAN OLIGARCHY.

RESOLVES:
TO REQUEST THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LEGISLATION AND THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO REVISE THE CONTRACT AND ELIMINATE SUCH ONEROUS CONDITIONS TO WHICH THE COUNTRY WAS SUBJECTED. TO ESTABLISH OUR ENERGETIC PROTEST, BECAUSE THE OLIGARCHIC GENERATIONS NEVER GUARDED OVER THE FUTURE OF THE COUNTRY AND WERE DOCILE SERVANTS OF YANKEE IMPERIALISM.

DONE IN PANAMA CITY, ON THE TWENTY-FIFTH DAY OF THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 1973.

PRESENTED TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF CORREGIMIENTO REPRESENTA-TIVES BY HONORABLE REPRESENTATIVE JOSEO. HUERTA, JR., OF THE CORREGIMIENTO CABECERA DE PESE, PROVINCIA DE HERRERA. END QUOTE.

2. COMMENT: THIS IS CLEARLY ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF PETTY HARRASSMENT DESCRIBED IN A-192, AND MAY BE PART OF PANAMANIAN PREPARATION FOR TREATY NEGOTIATIONS IN THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY IS TELLING US THAT PANAMA TOO CAN FIND SOME CHIPS TO BE USED IN NEGOTIATIONS.
COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC PROBLEM OF THE LEASE WILL FOLLOW IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE.
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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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